

In - Fur - Nation

Your Guide to the World of Furry Fandom

Volume 13, Number 1

Our Motto: All The News We Get, We Print!

Fall/Winter, 2001

We Scare...

Hey, weren't we just here? And how... After a hair-pulling summer and early fall trying to get the last issue out to people (or it would have been hair-pulling if your ed-otter *had* hair), *In-Fur-Nation* is making an effort to get back on schedule, bring you folks the furry news you want and love. Read on for more helpful information on upcoming furry fandom conventions, after a brief update from our intrepid reporters...

Reflections on September... So much has been said, so much written, and so much water has gone under the bridge since September 11, 2001. What more can this humble furry fan add? Some say we entered a whole new world on that day... Others, your ed-otter among them, say we were simply given a violent reminder of what sort of world we actually live in. And of the work still ahead of us. So what can we do now? Trying to live our 'normal lives' as the government suggests would be downright silly. Nothing feels normal anymore. So what can we do? Many many things... among them, entertain ourselves. *I'm serious.* Here in the western world, we place a special value on our entertainment and leisure time that much of the rest of humanity considers to be rather odd, if not downright decadent. Well, more power to us! It's part of what makes us who we are: We can laugh at the weirdest things, and turn the oddest events of our lives into a song. It's been said that terrorists' greatest triumph is to make you change the way you would otherwise chose to live your own life. So here it is – Go to the movies. Watch TV and surf the Internet. Go to plays, and sporting events, and amusement parks. And every time you do, think of it as thumbing the nose of some would-be terrorist. And, as a rebellious salute (we're good at those) to all the lives we've lost.



c. 2001 by Amelia Stoner

Due to the legal maneuvering of another company which claimed to own their name (don't even ask...), Mailbox Books has been forced to change its name to Rabbit Valley. Same service though: Providing a clearing house for dozens of furry fanzines, portfolios, books, calendars, and other items. Find out more at www.rabbitvalley.com, or send \$5.00 for a print catalog (with a \$2.50 discount) to Rabco Publishing Inc., P.O. Box 540568, Waltham, MA 02454-0568.

As of this writing, the Disney/Pixar film *Monsters, Inc.* has risen to become Pixar's highest grossing film, and Disney's second-highest grossing animated film. Their next collaboration is *Finding*

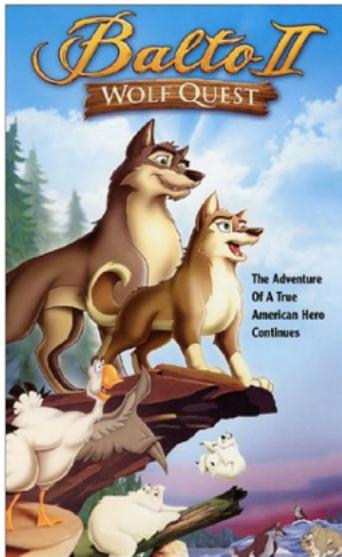
Nemo, an undersea adventure starring a cast of fish. Meanwhile, the 11 hour *Shrek* DVD (from Dreamworks/PDI, of course) is positively burning up the sales charts. Now the big question is which of these two (considered to be the big contenders) will take the first Academy Award for Best Animated Feature.

Meanwhile, the other thing to look for this March is the premier of the new CGI film *Ice Age* by Fox. In this film, a set of prehistoric mammals (a wooly mammoth, a sabertooth cat, a giant sloth, etc.) must work together to return a human baby to his family before the onslaught of glaciers destroy the land. The film is directed by **Chris Wedge** of Blue Sky Studios, whose CGI short film *Bunny* got the Academy Award in 1998. Voice actors include **Ray Romano, Dennis Leary, Jack Black, and John Leguizamo**.

In the from-out-of-nowhere department: Coming to theaters very soon is Disney's *Snow Dogs*, a live-action comedy starring Oscar winners **Cuba Gooding Jr. and James Coburn**. The former stars as a Florida man who, having inherited a dog-sled team (don't ask, again), decides he's going to enter in the Iditarod Race in Alaska. (The Iditarod was made famous also in the animated film *Balto*.) Of course, being a comedy film, the dogs on the sled team all talk to each other. A lot.

And hey, speaking of *Balto*, the original 1995 film will be released to DVD on February 19th. On that same day the brand-new sequel, *Balto II: Wolf Quest*, will be released on video and DVD. It follows the adventures of one of Balto and Jenna's pups, who looks even more like a wolf than her father does.

Disney's latest gig appears to be releasing classic animated features re-formatted for the giant IMAX screens. First out of the gate is the re-release of *Beauty & The Beast*, in IMAX theaters now. This new release features a new animated sequence: The song "Human Again", which was cut from the original feature (before it was ever animated) but was included in the Broadway play version. And, just announced: On January 1, 2003, Disney will re-release *The Lion King* in IMAX format. Go to <http://disney.go.com/disneypictures/lionking/> for more information.



According to reports, a teaser trailer for Disney's summer animated film *Lilo and Stitch* appears in front of the IMAX *Beauty & the Beast*. If you've not heard, the new film goes like this: In 1950's Hawaii, a young girl adopts a very strange looking dog... whom she does not realize is actually an escaped, super-powered rebel from outer space. She then teaches him her favorite hobby: Doing the hula to Elvis songs. Yes.

Of all things: The teaser trailer for Dreamworks' new animated film *Spirit: Stallion of Cimarron* has been released, officially, through a fury web site: See http://www.tigress.com/icin/Spirit_01.mov.

The latest animated film by **Hayao Miyazaki** (burning up the box office in Japan) is called *Spirited Away*. When her parents are suddenly turned into farm animals, young Chihiro stumbles into a magical land of gods and monsters. Word is out that Disney and Dreamworks are currently in a bidding war to see who will get the North American distribution rights.

Word is out that not only *Scooby Doo*, but *Garfield* is also coming to a theater near you (sometime soon) as a CGI character in a live-action movie.

Coming to your television this fall is *Greg the Burny* on the Fox Network. In this comedy series we discover that the puppet stars of a popular children's TV show called *Sweetnuckle Junction* are not put away in a box at night: They are, in fact, real live beings with hang-ups, legal problems, and all the other troubles of celebrity. **Seth Green** (Scott Evil from *Austin Powers*) stars as the roommate of the titular rabbit puppet.

New anime to look for in DVD: *Pilot Candidate* from Bandai Entertainment. In the future, young teens are sent to train as pilots for giant battle machines to help protect human space. Our hero's mechanic/partner shows some definite feline traits: Check out those ears!

Marvel Comics, under their new mature readers "Max" imprint, will be releasing a new *Howard the Duck* six-issue miniseries. Returning to the title is original *Howard* writer **Steve Gerber**. Meanwhile, many of Howard's original adventures have been released in a special black & white collected trade paperback. *The Essential Howard the Duck* is edited by **Brian Bolland**.

The latest collection of *Usagi Yojimbo* by **Stan Sakai** is the *Grasscutter II – Journey to Atshuta Shrine* trade paperback from Dark Horse Comics. It's also available in a special limited edition hardcover. The story follows Usagi as he attempts to protect a powerful, magical sword while returning it home.

Recently stumbled across: *Tarot: Witch of the Black Rose* by **Jim Ballant** (released by Broadsword Comics) features an anthro black cat lady named Little Red Riding Boo Cat. And she's in full color, too.

On shelves now is *Saurians: Unnatural Selection*, a two-issue miniseries spun off from the series *Sigil*. Brought to you by **Waid, Di Vito, Hunter, and Quintana**, this new full-color series follows the adventures of a reptilian soldier in his fight against the Planetary Union. Guess what? We're the Planetary Union! From Crossgen Comics.

New on the shelves from Radio Comix is *Bunny Town* by **Will Allison**: A one-shot tale of cuteness and despair, to quote a press release. It's 32 pages of black & white neuroses and angst with ultra-cute funny animals. While we're at it, look for *Bureau of Mana Investigation*, a new bimonthly black & white miniseries by **Christina Hanson** and **Ed Garcia**. In a future world where magic has returned, a human teams up with an anthro unicorn and dragon to battle demons in an elite police force. Meanwhile, issue #107 of *Furlough* celebrates that famous anthology's 10th anniversary with works by **Melton, Ruzicka, Calderon, Lage, and Moran** – along with a photo-morph cover by **Silverfish**.

Starting with issue #34, *Shanda the Panda* has expanded to 48 pages in every issue. This time 'round the famous black & white comic features the work of **Curtis, Palmer, Wheeler**, and others. Also out now from Shanda Fantasy Arts is the *Katmandu Annual #3* (celebrating *Katmandu's* 25th issue), and SFA Spotlight #13: *Women in Fur 2001* (with stories and art by **Carole Curtis, Mel. White, Roz Gibson, Carla Speed McNeil, Kris Updike, Cindi Harrington, Smudge**, and many others).

The latest *Tom Strong* collection from Wildstorm/America's Best Comics, *Tom Strong's Terrific Tales*, features a new back-up story by **Steve Moore** and **Arthur Adams** (of *Monkeyman & O'Brien*) called *JonnI Future*. A young woman is cast many millennia into the future, where she must work together with an anthro leopard to save the future. It's in full-color and bimonthly. Those characters, and several other furries from the *Tom Strong* books, are also featured in *The ABC Sketchbook*, a special one-shot.

If you've missed the issues, *Barry Ween, Boy Genius* and his adventures with various talking monkeys and apes have been gathered in a new trade paperback, *The Adventures of Barry Ween, Volume 3 – Monkey Tales*. This very satirical series was created by **Judd Winick**, and it's published by Olio Press.

Speaking of monkeys and apes (mostly apes), *Sky Ape – Waiting for Crime* is now available from AIT/Planet Lar and **Amara, McCarney, Russo**,

and **Jenkins**. In this black & white trade paperback, Kirk Madge (also known as Sky Ape, the world's hairiest super-hero crime fighter) has grown tired of saving the world, and has taken up life as an accountant. That is, until the world is threatened by the sinister O'Donnelly's Roofing Company. You heard it here.

Slave Labor Graphics are getting fury, in their own, typical weird manner. From the pages of *Stitch* come the *Skelebunnies*, now given their own black & white series. ("They're happy! They're dead! They're Skelebunnies!"). Meanwhile, the original *Skelebunnies* shorts have also been collected in the *Skelebunnies Spanktacular*. All of this oddness is brought to you by **Tommy Kovac**. Also coming from SLG (in March) is *My Monkey's Name is Jennifer* (hey, more monkeys!) by **Ken Knudtsen**. In this bimonthly black & white series, we learn that young Kaitlin has driven her pet monkey (actually a male chimpanzee) murderously insane by having him de-clawed, fixed, and constantly dressing him in dresses. However, when Kaitlin is captured by the nefarious Dr. Tunick and his band of transvestite ninjas, Jennifer the chimp must join forces with the mysterious Boney Man to save her. Hey, we don't make this stuff up, folks!

When you visit your local comic book store, keep an eye out for the new *Warhamster* T-shirt, brought to you by those nuts (**John Kovalic** and **Raven Mimura**) at Dork Storm Press. And of course, at your local gaming store you'll want to look for *Warhamster* itself (from "Games Dorkshop"); *Chez Dork*, a card game from Steve Jackson Games, and *Warhamster Rally* from Jolly Roger Games. If you're in a mood for even more **John Kovalic**, Dork Storm has re-released *Wild Life: The Cardinal Collection* in a new trade paperback that features Kovalic's early comic strip adventures with Carson the Muskrat and his friends. Note – It's limited to only 1,500 copies.

Tall Tails: Thieves Quest by **J.D. Calderon** and **Daphne Lage** has been released in a new trade paperback collection from Dream Weaver Press. Volume 1 features the first four issues of this magical, fury, black & white adventure comic.

Silk Purr Press is re-issuing the *Sophistikats*

Katch-Up Collection, a compilation originally put out by Antarctic Press. Following the adventures of an ordinary cat-guy who suddenly finds himself rich – and in a very different environment – this comedy black & white was created by **Castiglia, Steiertin, Morales, and Esposito**.

If you've not come across it yet, check out *Superman/Tarzan: Sons of the Jungle*, a new full-color miniseries from Dark Horse Comics, of all places. This "Elseworlds" series by **Chuck Dixon, Carlos Meglia, and Dave Stewart** mashes together the histories of these two heroes, and comes up with the story of Kal-El, Lord of the Apes.

The most popular on-line role-playing game on Earth, *Everquest*, is now a full-color comic book one-shot from DC Comics' Wildstorm imprint. In *Everquest: The Ruins of Kunark* (created by **Jim Lee, Brad Mquaid, and Dan Norton**), elves battle against powerful reptilian sorcerers with dark intentions.

Astonish Comics, publishers of **Mike Kunkel's Herobear and the Kid**, now have a second comic book title: *The Lab* by **Scott Christian Sava**. Livingstone the mole and Esteban the weasel are two employees of a company that tests product safety – often with disastrous results, especially for the folks who work there! This full-color comic book series is rendered in 3D-animation style. Oh, speaking of Astonish Comics, also look for two new *Herobear and the Kid* posters: *The Beginning* and *Best Friends*.

Unearthed classics department: Denis Kitchen Publishing has reprinted the original **Harvey Kurtzman** (*Mad* magazine) version of *The Grasshopper and the Ant* in an 80 page hardcover book. This full-color comic, first published in *Esquire* magazine in 1960, re-imagines the famous Aesop's fable from a beatnik perspective.

New in mini-comics: *Literary Graffiti* from Kami Shibal Press. Issue #1 of this black & white series by **Jeff Alexander** and **Ian Sattler**, which combines American and Japanese styles, features two funny-animal stories: *The Deadly Persimmon* and *Super Glamour Battle Kitty*.

Furries from a musical perspective show up in *Beat Peculiar* by **Joe Meyer**. This large (104 page!) black & white collection features the story of the Slammmin' Bunnie's, a rabbit rock group trying out a new lead singer. The second story follows three roommates: A flake, a DJ, and a werewolf. Third up is a story of Joe's real-life meeting with singer **Tori Amos**. It's all from Landwaster Books.

Old friends return: **Peter Laird**, one-half of the creative team behind the original *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, and recent *TMNT* artist **Jim Lawson** now present a brand new black & white *TMNT* series. *Volume 4* takes place 15 years after the events in the last series – and comes to us from our old friends at *Mirage*.

The current issue of the comic book how-to magazine *Sketch* (#12) features an interview with *Liberty Meadows* creator **Frank Cho**.

New from **Patrick McDonnell** is the *Mutts: Sunday Mornings* trade paperback, featuring Sunday full-color comic-strip adventures with Earl the dog and Mooch the Cat. From Andrews & McMeel.

Confurence Seven Guest of Honor **S. Andrew Swann** returns to writing with the new novel *The Dragons of Cuyahoga* from DAW Books. This fantasy/mystery shows what happens when elves, unicorns, and dragons suddenly appear in Cleveland, USA, and technology just stops. Life gets interesting – even more so, when the first dragon through the portal is found murdered.

Already generating buzz is *The Amazing Maurice and his Educated Rodents* (from Harper Collins), **Terry Pratchett's** first honest-to-goodness furry novel. Set (of course) on Pratchett's Discworld, Terry himself described the story thusly: "It's the Pied Piper story, told from the point of view of the rats – if that story also included a talking cat with the morals of Sgt. Bilko". You heard it here folks.

New from author **Robin Jarvis** (and Seastar Books) is *The Crystal Prison*, the second book in the Deptford Mice trilogy and the sequel to last year's *The Dark Portal*. London's city mice

continue to battle the mysterious, evil power of Jupiter and his legion of rats.

Mainframe – Beginnings is a new furry SF novel written by **Simba Wiltz** and published by Xlibris. It's available as a 320-page softcover book and as an e-book. Simba Wiltz has a web site for his works at <http://www.wiltzworks.com/mainframe/>. Veteran animator **Richard Williams**, who created the cartoon sequences for *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*, now gives us *The Animator's Survival Kit* trade paperback. Based on William's very popular series of lectures, the book provides basic principles of animation for the classic and the computer animator.

Rio Grande Games is a card and board-game publisher with several new furry-oriented games in their collection. *The Yeti Cup* and *Yeti Slalom* are both card games where players assemble funny animal teams of skiers – trying to make it downhill all the way without the yetis getting them! In the card game *Gargon*, players portray warlocks competing to capture magical amulets from the various flying creatures of legend: Fairies, dragons, pegasi, and so forth. And *Tally Ho* is a board game where players are both the human hunters and their animal prey – who're both out to get each other! Find out more at www.riograndegames.com.

Wicked Press is another company with several furry-oriented game titles under its belt. In *Cat RPG: A Storytelling Game of Fancy*, players are cats who secretly help to protect the world of humans from magical threats that only felines can see. And in *Tooth & Claw*, role-players can portray any number of species of dinosaurs and battle against one another for survival. They're on-line at <http://www.wickedpress.com/games/>.

On the heels of *Werewolf*, *Ironclaw*, and *World Tree*, it seems that numerous furry-oriented role-playing games have been quietly making their way onto the scene. *Dawnfire* from Dawnfire Games (www.dawnfiregames.com) features a race of foxes. *Dinosaur Planet – Broncosaurus Rex* from Goodman Games (www.broncosaurusrex.com) features a world where humans have raised dinosaurs like livestock – while battling more intelligent tribes of predatory dinosaurs. *Vortex*

(www.fantasyflightgames.com) is a collectible card game that allows players to portray a race of reptiles, the Draconis, as well as other species. In the board game *A Dog's Life* from Eurogames, players portray street pooches out to try and collect the most bones in order to survive. And of course there's *War Gods of Aegyptus* (www.crocodilegames.com), which features whole armies of creatures based on several anthropomorphic gods of ancient Egypt. This last game also features a huge series of collectible miniatures. Whew!

Speaking of miniatures, a whole new series of metal miniatures for the game *Ironclaw* is now available from Sanguine Productions Limited.

Game Publisher d20 Systems has created a new series of adventures for the *Dungeons & Dragons* universe called *Diomin – State of the Nations*. Several new player races are introduced in these modules. In Volume I we meet the Gadiant, a race of anthropomorphic predatory felines.

New video games to watch out for: *Jax & Daxter* by Naughty Dog, for the Sony Playstation 2. This platform game follows the adventures of two boyhood pals on a mysterious island – where one of them gets turned into a smart-mouthed weasel. Now the challenge is to change him back.

< From Fred Patten and ConFurence 2002: >

The Anthropomorphic Literature & Arts of the Year (Ursa Major) Awards: Final Ballot.

This ballot will be given or mailed to all preregistering members of ConFurence 2002 between now and March 10, 2002 (the end of the PawPet MegaPlex con). While nominations were accepted from all fans, only this year's ConFurence members may vote on this final ballot. All ballots must be received by March 18, 2002, so that they may be tallied and the winners' names engraved on the trophies in time for presentation at ConFurence 2002, April 26 - 28, 2002. For memberships in ConFurence 2002, see <http://www.confurence.net/>, or write to: ConFurence Group, P.O. Box 84721, San Diego, California 92138-4721. [For a listing of the nominees, check out the web site or www.flayrah.com -- ye ed-otter]

Obituaries

You never saw him, but you knew him when you heard him. Veteran voice actor **Lorenzo Music** left us this last fall. After years as a producer and writer, Music's voice first became known on *Rhoda* in the 1970's, where he was the never-seen Carlton (your doorman). Cartoon fans, however, will remember him best as the voice of Garfield in *Garfield and Friends* and Tubby Gummi in *Gummi Bears*. No one ever sounded like him, nor ever will.

Comic book great **Dan DeCarlo** passed away this last December, at the age of 82. Dan was best remembered as the creator of *Sabrina the Teenage Witch*, *Josie and the Pussycats*, and other titles for Archie Comics. Dan was recently a Guest of Honor at the 2001 Anthrocon. He was also the inspiration for more than one generation of comic book writers and artists.

A different sort of obit: On what turned out later to be a fateful weekend (September 9, 2001), Disney permanently closed down the original **Country Bear Jamboree** audio-animatronics show at Disneyland in California. Though the show is still running in Florida and Tokyo, the original is gone – to be replaced by a Winnie the Pooh ride. On the final night, a massive party of annual pass-holders and Disney fans was held in front of the attraction, followed by a tumultuous final showing. Why Disney decided to do this even as they're gearing up publicity for the *Country Bears* movie this summer is anyone's guess.

Furry Stuff has ConFurence Stuff! The original ConFurence General Store (for ConFurences 0 – 10) has moved to the new Furry Stuff web portal. Check them out at www.furrystuff.com to find out more – very soon, pictures of what's available will be up online. Three of the popular ConFurence T-Shirt designs are still available for a limited time: "Furries in Force" (black on honey-color) by **Eric Schwartz** from CF7, "Furries in Love" (black

and pink on grey) by **Rachael Cawley** from CF9, and "Sydney's World" (Sydney on a colored globe on green) by **Ken Sample** from CF10. Plus, a very few of **Mitch Beiro's** colorful "Furries in Space" T-shirts remain (write for sizes available). They also still offer the *ConFurence Seven Highlights Video*, as well as the brand new *ConFurence Eight - Music and Mirth* and *ConFurence Nine - Furries in Love* highlights videos too! And coming soon, a special combination video from CF5 and CF6! Not to mention many cool prints and extra Souvenir Books from past ConFurences! To find a complete list, visit the Furry Stuff web site, or send them an SASE at: Furry Stuff, P.O. Box 1958, Garden Grove, CA 92842-1958.

What, you're looking for NEW ConFurence Stuff? **The ConFurence Group**, home of ConFurence 2002, has its own stash of stuff they want you to know about too! Still available are the full-color ConFurence 12 T-shirt illustrated by **Mike Kazaleh**, the ConFurence 11 T-shirt designs by **Shannon Stuart** and CF 11 Guest of Honor **Mitch Beiro** (all for \$12.00 each), and the ConFurence Group™ paw-logo T-shirt (also for \$12.00. Some larger sizes are \$15.00.) Plus, remember to get your ConFurence lapel pins! That's right, the paw-globe logo can be right on your neck for only \$8.00. If you visit their web site at www.confurence.net, you can order this cool stuff plus ConFurence 2002 memberships, Cabaret tickets, and more, on-line! For more information about new ConFurence merchandise, write them at: The ConFurence Group, P.O. Box 84721, San Diego, CA 92138-4721.

And Now, just what you've been wanting to hear: How do I keep up my Subscription to *In-Fur-Nation*? We're glad you asked! After nearly a decade of functioning as a newsletter for ConFurence, and a furry newsletter second, *In-Fur-Nation* is expanding its role in the furry community by presenting you the whole length and breadth of furry: Not just comic books, animated films, picture books, and the rest, but the growing number of furry-themed fan conventions popping up around the continent, and around the world! So now, a subscription to

In-Fur-Nation will bring you even more of what furry fans are looking for around the globe. Find out what to look for, and where to go! Brought right to your doorstep three times a year (spring, summer, and fall). And what's it gonna cost you? A whopping \$5.00 for a year's subscription. That's right, for a year. Just send a check made out to "Furry Stuff" (and note it's for *In-Fur-Nation*), or heck, just send a \$5.00 bill in a darkened envelope. (Trust us, it's an old tradition in the 'zine community. It works). To subscribe, to find out more info, or to send us notes for our Furry News, write us at: In-Fur-Nation, P.O. Box 1958, Garden Grove, CA 92842-1958.

A Note to the staff members of our many Furry Conventions: Hey! We wanna help you get the word out! Having a cool-looking web site is a neat thing, but remember: There are still a significant number of fans out there (furry and otherwise) who don't use the World Wide Web, or who don't use it to its full potential. For them, there's this cool old thing folks on the Internet call *Snail Mail*. That's where we come in! Send us information, and let us help you get the word out to over 1,000 furry fans, artists, dealers, and publishers in the U.S., Canada, Europe, Japan... Look below for our reasonable ad rates, and don't forget... send us text blurbs and you get in for free!

A Request to Our Readers: Hey, got a favorite comic or book store that carries your favorite furry titles, or that you wish would carry more? Give us their address! We'll send them a copy of *In-Fur-Nation* each quarter, and keep them abreast of the kind of comics and media that you would like to see on their shelves! Remember, they can't order it if they don't know it's out there! **As an alternate:** Know of any good comic review zines or web sites that might be looking to trade issues?

Advertising in In-Fur-Nation: For those who've been asking, ads in *In-Fur-Nation* come in these sizes: 1/8-page "business card" size for \$5.00 per issue, and 1/4-page size (4 1/2" tall by 3 1/4" wide) for \$10.00 per issue. Full-page inclusions can also be arranged for \$50.00 an issue. Check should be made out to Furry Stuff.

Send camera-ready art and text to P.O. Box 1958, Garden Grove, CA 92642-1958, or send email to mink@firstlight.net.

(Many thanks to: Darrel Exline, Fred Patten, Mark Merlino, www.flayrah.com, *Explorations* review zine, and all the people who helped provide information for this issue both by mail and via Internet! Invaluable help was also received from the web masters of the various furry conventions out there.)

... Because We Care! (*motto* of Monsters, Inc.)

More Furry Conventions A'Comin' Your Way!

Here's the run-down on some upcoming furry gatherings in other parts of the country...

Further ConFusion, 2002

January 24-27, 2002, The San Mateo Marriott, California

Further Confusion University!

The newest furry convention in California is designed to promote a sense of community within Furry Fandom.

Guests of Honor this time include award-winning SF author **David Brin** (*Startide Rising*, *The Uplift War*), Rhythm & Hues GGI animator **Dave Feiten**, fan artist **Kevin Pavelic**, and speakers (and a live tiger!) from **The Kirshner Foundation**. Many special events, presentations, discussions, and charity events will be happening, including the Pursuit Dance and the Iron Artist Competition.

Rooms at the San Mateo Marriot (1770 South Amphlett Blvd., San Mateo, CA 94402) are available for \$99.00 per night for singles or doubles, and \$109.00 per night for triple or quad. As of right now, Regency Suites are sold out! Call 1-800-228-9290 (Marriott's 24-hr. Reservation System toll-free number) and make sure to mention Hotel Code SFOSA. The event code for Further Confusion is 'furcon'.

Registration for full membership is **\$40.00** at

the door. For more information (including the art show, dealers' room, and programming) check out their web site at www.furtherconfusion.org.

The Furry Spring Break for 2002 has been CANCELLED. But, on the same dates is now –

The PawPet Megaplex Convention

March 8-10, 2001, at the Ramada Resort in Orlando, Florida

Focusing on independent and amateur entertainment through the use of animals that talk and perform. Meet others who love and want to learn more about things like mascotting, costuming, cartooning, roll playing games, anthro-art, puppeteering, internet TV shows, And More!

The Ramada Resort is located at 7400 International Drive, Orlando, Florida 32819. Their direct phone number is (407) 996-7400. For reservations call (888) 298-2054 during normal business hours, and use the reservation code 'PAWPET'. (Do NOT use (800) 2RAMADA for booking!) Room rates are still **\$69.00** per night for regular rooms and **\$139.00** per night for Suites.

Memberships for the Megaplex are **\$25.00** by mail. Sponsorships are also available (for a higher price, with some extra goodies), and supporting (non-attending) memberships are available for only **\$15.00**.

For more information and the latest updates on The Megaplex Convention, check out their web site at <http://www.pawpet.org/megaplex/>. Or, you could just send them a check or money order to: PawPet Megaplex, 3936 S. Semoran Blvd #281, Orlando, FL 32822.

In our next big fat issue... we'll fill you in on the latest information about Anime Expo (July 4-7, in Long Beach, CA), Anthrocon (July 12-14, in Philadelphia, PA), and Critter ConDiego (August 2-4, in San Diego, CA).

Coming in the next In-Fur-Nation (mid-March, 2002) will be some vital information for you folks joining us at ConFurence 2002. Speaking of which, take it away, Mr. Polar Bear! [Happy New Year, everyone! Remember: Subscribe to In-Fur-Nation today! Play it again, Spam!]

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conventions, and more! Come join our wing!

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